



U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement

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News Release

JUDGE REVOKES CITIZENSHIP, ORDERS JAIL FOR OHIO IMAM *Convicted of lying about associations with Designated Foreign Terrorist Organizations*

AKRON, Ohio – A federal judge sentenced 41-year-old Muslim cleric Fawaz Mohammed Damrah to two months prison, four months home confinement, and stripped him of his citizenship Monday for failing to disclose information on his citizenship application that would have disqualified him for the benefit.

Damrah is appealing the judge's decision.

U.S. District Judge James S. Gwin announced the jail and home confinement sentence after a jury found Damrah, a.k.a "Fawaz Damra," guilty Monday of unlawfully obtaining citizenship through a false or fraudulent application that was sworn under oath. Damrah became a naturalized citizen April 29, 1994 after applying through the now-defunct Immigration and Naturalization Service.

The conviction and sentencing follows an investigation by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), the FBI, and the Joint Terrorism Task Force.

Gwin had revoked Damrah's citizenship Sept. 17, as required by Title 8, Section 1451(e), for unlawfully procuring citizenship. Specifically, Damrah concealed on his citizenship application his memberships and affiliations with the Palestinian Islamic Jihad (PIJ), the Islamic Committee for Palestine (ICP), and Al-Kifah aka Afghan Refugee Services. The criminal indictment alleged Damrah concealed the fact that he had "incited, assisted, or otherwise participated in the persecution" of Jews and others by advocating and supporting violent terrorist attacks.

Deportation proceedings against Damrah will not begin until after the U.S. 6th Circuit Court of Appeals decides on Damrah's appeal. Damrah is scheduled to report to prison Nov. 22.

ICE

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) is the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). ICE seeks to prevent acts of terrorism by targeting the people, money and materials that support terror and criminal networks.